Movement of stray dogs in airports

2962. SHRI S. ANBALAGAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that a stray dog hit the nose of an aircraft which was taking off at the runway in Bangalore recently;

(b) if not, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by Government to prevent stray dog movements in various airports in the country to ensure safety to passengers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. On 27th March, 2008 at Bangalore airport, a rejected take off incident occurred to M/s. Kingfisher Airlines' ATR-72- 212, an aircraft operating as flight IT-2427, when a stray dog was noticed on the centreline of runway. Due to this, the aircraft finally came to halt with its nose resting on runway leading to blockage of runway for three and a half hours causing minor injury to two passengers.

(c) To prevent entry of stray dogs in the operational area, major steps such as increase in the frequency of runway inspection during each landing and departure, fencing of the airport periphery, grass cutting & checking of water logging inside the airport, wire meshing of the hangars, garbage dumping in covered bins and early removal, regular joint inspection of areas around the airport and deployment of Watch and Ward staff during aircraft operations are taken.

Food and snacks served in flights

2963. DR. K. MALAISAMY:
SHRI S. ANBALAGAN:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the standard and periodicity maintained in the supply of food and snacks in Government owned airlines in India;

(b) whether it is a fact that the very same stereotype of food/snacks are supplied to the passengers; and

(c) if so, the reasons for not periodically changing the menu?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (c) National Aviation Company of India Limited (NACIL) engages established flight catering units wherever possible. It ensures that all flights catering Units have basic infrastructure, qualified manpower, adequately sterile packing/storing area for in-flight catering etc. NACIL offers a multi-cuisine menu catered by reputed flight kitchens like Taj SATS under the Taj Goup banner, Ambassadors' and LSG an international chain. Menus are rotated periodically and revised regularly so as to offer variety and they also cater to preferences of passengers with regional specialities and seasonal flavours. Special meals like those suitable to diabetics, Jain food, no oil-no salt meals etc. are also arranged on request. Meals served on outbound flights are different from those served on inbound flights so that passengers are not served the same type of food on both directions. Along with the